

FORM NO. 51-4AA
FEB 1952

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 13 February 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Border Guard Morale

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE
ACQUIRED

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSES OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. Morale was very low in the PS because the guards were stationed far from towns and in isolated border areas which often had been evacuated of all civilians. There was also very little free time for members of the PS.
2. Many members of the PS were applying for transfers to the Army; these transfers were, however, granted in very rare instances. Some members of the PS were nervous and shrank at shadows while on guard. Other PS men were afraid to be out alone at night, and many of them, especially the very religious Slovaks, refused to shoot at suspected illegal border crossers. The conscientious objectors were usually teamed with true Communists when on parole.
3. The PS had poor PX facilities, but officers going to big cities usually brought supplies for the PS men. Leaves were given only to those EM of the PS who excelled in their duties and to those who had captured illegal border crossers. A leave was usually for the period of four days. No member of the PS had more than three leaves annually, some only one and others no leave at all during their entire term of service. All members of the PS were very resentful at Christmas 1951 because none of them received leaves whereas the Army did grant leaves to its members. Morale in the PS was not affected adversely by food since it was much better than in the Army.
4. Low morale is also indicated by the many PS desertions. At the end of 1951 or in the beginning of 1952, six unidentified EM of the 9 PS Brigade deserted. In January 1952 three EM of the 7 PS Brigade deserted. One, incidentally, returned to the CSR in February 1952, was apprehended in March of that year in Klatovice and was accused of being an agent of the Western Powers.

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

[illegible]

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

- 25X1 5.
6. In April or May 1952, illegal leaflets were found in the area near Susice. These leaflets, which called on the people to rebel against the Czech regime, still had wet ink on them. The PS believed that they had originated in the CSR and that they had not been disseminated by outside agencies. The STB traced the leaflets to an empty building near the Susice cemetery, but did not find anyone there. 25X1
-

SECRET